

1 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
2 HOUSE BILL 1623

By: Floyd, Sherrer and McDaniel
(Jeannie) of the House

3
4 and

5 McAffrey of the Senate
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7 An Act relating to schools; permitting boards of
8 education to adopt a suicide and student drug abuse
9 policy; requiring course outline to be made available
10 to the public through the school district website;
11 directing the Department of Mental Health and
12 Substance Abuse Services to develop and make
13 available to school districts suicide prevention and
14 awareness training; providing requirements for
15 certain training programs; providing immunity for
16 certain acts by school employees; limiting causes of
17 action; permitting school districts to enter into
18 certain agreements; and providing for codification.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

21 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-100.7 of Title 70, unless
23 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. The board of education of each school district in this state
may adopt a policy regarding suicide awareness and training and the
reporting of student drug abuse.

B. The board of education of each school district in this state
may provide schoolwide training to all students in grades nine
through twelve and staff addressing suicide awareness and

1 prevention. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
2 Services shall develop and make available to school districts
3 training which addresses suicide awareness and prevention, without
4 cost to the school districts. The course outline for the training
5 shall be made available to the public online through the school
6 district website. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, every
7 school district may:

8 1. Provide a suicide prevention training program which includes
9 as a core element research-based approaches and that is developed by
10 the school district; or

11 2. Provide the training program provided by the Department of
12 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; or

13 3. Provide a suicide prevention training program that is
14 selected by the school district from a list maintained by the
15 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to students
16 and school district staff that addresses suicide awareness and
17 prevention. The training program may be combined with any other
18 training provided by the school district addressing bullying
19 prevention.

20 C. Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators and other
21 school personnel shall be immune from employment discipline and any
22 civil liability for:

23 1. Calling the 911 emergency telephone number, law enforcement
24 or the Department of Human Services if they believe a student poses

1 a threat to themselves or others or if a student has committed or
2 been the victim of a violent act or threat of a violent act;

3 2. Providing counseling, referral, emergency medical care or
4 other assistance offered in good faith to a student or other youth;
5 and

6 3. Communicating information in good faith concerning drug or
7 alcohol abuse or a potential safety threat by or to any student to
8 the parents of the student, law enforcement officers or health care
9 providers.

10 D. No person shall have a cause of action for any loss or
11 damage caused by any act or omission resulting from the
12 implementation of this section or resulting from any training, or
13 lack thereof, required by this section, unless the loss or damage
14 was caused by willful or wanton misconduct.

15 E. The training required pursuant to this section, or the lack
16 thereof, shall not be construed to impose any specific duty of care.

17 F. School districts may enter into agreements with designated
18 Youth Services Agencies for the provision of intervention and
19 prevention services.

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